(b)(3) [redacted]

By Appointment

January 22, 1979

Mr. [redacted]
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear [redacted]

In reply to your letter of January 17, 1979 would advise, as I am the only living member of the original team involved in the research at [redacted] I feel it my duty to relate whatever my recollection serves me in this matter. I do not have any material data, but would be pleased to talk with a representative of your agency, if this can be arranged.

Yours truly,

[redacted]

[redacted]

Approved for Release
Date JAN 2000

18 December 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: MKULTRA Subproject 39 - [redacted]

1. Subproject 39 was created by memorandum for the record dated 9 December 1954 to "exploit the research potential that is represented by a group of 142 criminal-sexual psychopaths confined in the [redacted]. Several materials and techniques will be assessed for their information-eliciting properties... It is thought that these individuals have the kind of motivation for withholding certain information that is comparable to operational interrogation situations in the field." The memo also says that preliminary discussions of this project between [redacted] and the Office of Security had taken place over the preceding 18 months, but no work had been started.

2. The Office of Security file shows that [redacted] was a fully cleared consultant for the Agency in 1952. He taught a polygraph training course for the Interrogation Research Division of the Office of Security. In 1953 "he was extensively involved in Project Artichoke as a prime mover of this Program." A research plan was drawn up proposing that human subjects be subjected to straight interrogation; hypnosis; hypnosis and LSD; hypnosis and a tetrahydrocannabinol acetate derivative; LSD with interrogation; a tetrahydrocannabinol acetate derivative and interrogation. Drugs were to have been administered openly and surreptitiously. There is nothing in the file, however, to indicate that human experiments were conducted. The 9 December memorandum for the record that establishes the MKULTRA subproject contains the positive statement that no work had been done before that date.

3. The Research Plan attached to the 9 December MFR identifies the project investigators:

[redacted] a psychologist "who has had extensive experience examining criminals; has written extensively on psychopathic sexual deviations; is an authority on polygraph and interrogation methods:.

[redacted] "for some thirty years, a psychiatrist who has

spent his life in the treatment of the criminal insane and maintains the only institution in Michigan for the care and treatment for the criminal-sexual psychopath:. The Office of Security file notes that [redacted] had been proposed for participation in Project Artichoke.

[redacted] is identified in the Research Plan as a psychiatrist with a large private practice who was devoting his time exclusively to psychoanalysis. "As a Navy psychiatrist he has had extensive experience in the Far East" and has written extensively about "eastern cultures; Oriental psychiatry, and brainwashing. He has also done interrogations with criminals and has engaged in narcoanalysis and hypnoanalysis". The Office of Security file identifies [redacted] as an outstanding psychologist and psychoanalyst associated with [redacted] He was approved in 1954 for Project Artichoke. In 1955 TSS had an interest in him "for a project in [redacted]".

[redacted] is identified in the Research Plan as a psychiatrist on the staff of the Psychopathic Clinic of [redacted] who also maintained a private practice. He had 25 years of experience dealing with criminals, "including drug interrogation". The Security file identifies a [redacted] was born in [redacted] and "was one of the psychiatrists who was to work with [redacted] on Project Artichoke".

[redacted] is identified in the Research Plan as a physician who, "for the past 25 years, has been [redacted] He had had extensive experience dealing with all sorts of criminals and has engaged in drug interrogation". The Office of Security file says that [redacted] was cleared for ARTICHOKE 26 October 1954 and was granted Top Secret covert clearance 22 March 1955 for use by TSS on [redacted] The file says there was no indication of drug experimentation under ARTICHOKE. All of the investigators were cleared and witting. Signed secrecy agreements are in the file.

4. The "Experimental Design" included in the Research Plan, quoted in its entirety, follows:

"Three teams of two senior professional men each will be selected. One team working with the selected group of patients will use straight interrogation, hypnosis and hypnosis and LSD and hypnosis and a tetrahydrocannabinol acetate derivative. Another team working on another group of subjects will use straight interrogation, LSD with interrogation and a tetrahydrocannabinol acetate and interrogation. Later the third team with another group of subjects

will use straight interrogation and a combination of LSD and a tetrahydrocannabinol acetate derivative.

"A meeting of all the members of the research project will be briefed on the drugs to be used and all of the pharmacological and medical knowledge gained so far in the use of these drugs.

"In selecting groups of subjects for experimentation the following objectives will be sought:

"1) Subjects will be selected who have denied allegations of various kinds that can be checked or strongly assumed on the basis of previously established records.

"2) As far as possible, the actual research man administering drugs will not be aware of the drug he is administering and placebos will be interspersed with drug administration.

"3) Precautions will be taken to neutralize age, intelligence, physical condition, social background and any other controllable factor in selecting groups. Administration of drugs will be done both openly and surreptitiously.

"4) Sound recordings will be made of the interrogation and written reports will be obtained in other cases.

"5) Due care will be exercised in equating methods of interrogation as far as this can be done. The results of interrogation with drugs and other techniques will be checked against existing records and qualitative and quantitative reports will be evaluated. Accurate and uniform reports will be kept and reports will be submitted on the basis of interim progress and complete projects."

5. In a letter dated January 11, 1955, [redacted] says, in part "Enclosed also is a letter which [redacted] asked me to write so that he might show it to his superiors. This letter will come at a very opportune time, because the doctor showed me other correspondence from the [redacted] in which they inquired as to the use he was making of some of the newer drugs, the inference being that they approve activity of this kind". The letter [redacted] refers to as "enclosed" is not in the file.

In a letter dated February 25, 1957 [redacted] reports that "eleven subjects have been completed" and "I am going to the hospital next Saturday, March 2, and will discuss this initial phase of the venture and also get the boys going on the next series".

[redacted] wrote in a letter March 28, 1957 "the research project [redacted] is moving forward at a rapid pace. For some time we were held up by our inability to build a large backlog of patients at one time. These problems have been resolved".

6. A memorandum for the record dated 9 April 1958 reports a visit to [redacted] on 7 April 1959 to make arrangements for closing out the project. This memorandum says "Of the 30 cases called for in the original design 18 have been completed (but only 4 have been transcribed from the tapes). In addition there are 8 cases in progress (of which two are already in interview and 6 are worked up to the point of having the lists of questions prepared). It was agreed that to meet the deadline we would have to limit the design to these 26 cases.

"It is apparent that [redacted] is so involved in the administrative problems of the project that he is not paying any attention to the results. Since to date only 4 cases have been transcribed there is no way of telling what is coming out of it. I assume there were no dramatic reactions, because the interviewers would have let him know about them had they emerged. It is possible, however, that our own analysis of the data may dredge up something of value, although I am dubious on this point... He also talked at some length about his experiments with hypnosis, some aspects of which are mildly hair-raising".

7. On July 18, 1958 [redacted] wrote "the experiment designed to test the effectiveness of certain medication in causing individuals to release guarded information has been completed in accordance with the original experimental design, with the exception that 25 instead of 30 cases were used. This matter was discussed in more detail in my letter of July 15. (not available in the file) Abstracts on all 25 cases, transcriptions of the interviews, Wechsler-Bellevue Intelligence Tests given at the hospital and previously given at this clinic, post-experimental rankings and evaluation sheets, and a schedule covering the drug administration have all been submitted to you under separate cover."

8. [redacted]

9. Neither [redacted] responded to correspondence sent to them by the General Counsel in August and November 1977. When pressed for a

response by letter from the General Counsel March 20, 1978, the Acting Director of [redacted] responded "We have no desire to request that you suppress information which would identify facilities you mention, nor do we wish to review the relevant information in your files ... We have discussed this response with the Department of Attorney General, and they concur in this position".

10. Subproject 39 seems clearly to have been developed to satisfy a requirement generated by CIA. The concept of the research had been discussed with [redacted] by the Office of Security within the scope of Project ARTICHOKE over a period of 18 months before actual studies began. The principal investigators were officers in the employ of the [redacted] with parallel interests and many years of experience in polygraph, drug, and hypnotic interrogation.

11. Letters to the [redacted] have been drafted.

[redacted]